## Malak Nisovo Monastery and Golyam Nisovo Monastery of Saints Konstantin and Elena

Malak Nisovo monastery is located in a rocky massif on the right bank of the Mali Lom River. The monastery is accessible through a rock crack, which is secured with a metal rope. After passing behind the rock, a steep wall must be climbed using metal steps and a safety rope. A safe passage requires a climbing seat, a helmet and a via ferrata set.

Golyam Nisovo monastery of Saints Konstantin and Elena is located on the right bank of the Malki Lom River. It is a complex of rooms located in a chain about 20 m above the river valley, to which a staircase cut into the rock leads. Nowadays they are partially destroyed. The monastery dates from the 11<sup>th</sup> century and is one of the largest and most representative monasteries in Polomieto. Its premises have rectangular outlines and evenly cut walls. In their middle part they are connected by a system of internal passages. At present, the remains of the rock complex consist of a temple and cells cut as extensions of the existing caves. The places where the wooden supports of the former additional structures were fixed can be still seen in the rock. The church, which has a separate altar space with a rectangular outline, is in the westernmost part. Fragments of plaster with frescoes are preserved in some places.

Malak Nisovo Monastery can be reached from the village of Nisovo, with an option also via Lomovete Nature Conservation Complex (5.5 km). Golyam Nisovo Monastery monastery of Saints Konstantin and Elena is 1.5 km south of Malak Nisovo Monastery.